

**AREA CLOSURE for PUBLIC SAFETY**

**OKANOGAN-WENATCHEE NATIONAL FOREST**

Pursuant to 36 CFR 261.50(a) and (b), the following acts are prohibited on the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest:

1. **To go into or be upon any area closed for protection of public health or safety.**  
For the purposes of this order, it is prohibited to enter or be within National Forest System lands, roads, or trails within the area of the Wenatchee River Ranger District closure area consisting of:

The eastern boundary of the closure begins on County Road 65 once you enter National Forest Land at T27N R16E S16. The boundary then follows the eastern edges of sections 16, 21 and 28 due south to approximately 6,000ft on Nason Ridge, just north of the Nason Ridge Trail #1583. The southern boundary of the closure follows Nason Ridge Trail #1583 west to the Merrit Lake Trail Junction. The boundary follows the ridge above Merrit Lake west to Rock Lake Trail #1587 and then follows the Rock Lake Trail #1587 to the Trailhead. Rock Lake and Rock Lake trail remain open. The boundary then continues west following along State Highway 2 to make the southern edge of the closure boundary. The boundary maintains a ¼ mile distance north of the highway. The boundary continues until the junction of highway 2 and Smithbrook Rd. 6700. The boundary is off-set from Smithbrook Road ¼ mile east of the road, to keep Rd. 6700 open. Smithbrook Road/Rainy Creek Road is closed north of the Smithbrook Trailhead. The boundary then follows the Smithbrook Trail #1590 (again, maintaining a 1/4mile distance off the trail to keep Smithbrook Trail open), until it reaches the Wenatchee River Ranger District boundary in T27N R14E S25. From there, the closure boundary heads north along the Wenatchee River Ranger District/Skykomish Ranger District until it reaches the Wenatchee Ridge (also the Henry M. Jackson/Glacier Peak wilderness Boundary). The northern boundary continues south and east along Wenatchee Ridge until it reaches County Road 65 at T27N R16E S16. All National Forest System trails and areas within these described boundaries are closed to public entry.

**Note: These areas and trails remain open**

- Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail #2000 remains open
- Nason Ridge Trail # 1583 remains open
- Merrit Lake Trail # 1583 remains open
- Rock Lake Trail # 1587 remains open
- Smithbrook Trail #1590 remains open
- Smithbrook Road FS6700 is open from HWY 2 to the Smithbrook TH
- Glasses Lake

This closure is effective as of August 5, 2014 and will remain in effect until terminated.

Pursuant to 36 CFR 261.50(e), the following persons are exempt from this order:

1. Persons with a permit specifically authorizing the otherwise prohibited act or omission, including Washington State employees in performance of an official duty, and their authorized contractors.
2. Any Federal, State or local officer, or a member of any organized search and rescue, emergency services, or firefighting force in the performance of an official duty.
3. Any private land owner exercising an existing right to access their own private property which is otherwise within the closure area as described above.

This prohibition is in addition to the general prohibitions in 36 CFR Part 261, Subpart A.  
Done at Wenatchee, Washington this 5<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2014.

/s/ Michael Balboni

Michael L. Balboni  
Forest Supervisor  
Okanogan-Wenatchee National  
Forest

Violations of these prohibitions are punishable by a fine of not more than \$5,000 for an individual or \$10,000 for an organization, or imprisonment for not more than 6 months, or both. (16 USC 551 And 18 USC 3559 and 3571)

#### Assessment of Need and Enforcement Plan

1. Background. A lightening caused fire was reported on the Wenatchee River Ranger District on August 4, 2014. Fire Suppression activities and monitoring are occurring. Areas where fires are burning and have occurred may contain a high element of dangerous possibilities such as wildfire, falling rock, dead falling tree's, weakened slope stability, stump holes and other hazards. For public safety this area closure aims to reduce risk to people by prohibiting entrance to these areas.

2. Intent of Subpart B order. This order provides for public and agency personnel safety.

3. Enforcement Plan. The following activities need to occur to implement this special order in a manner that results in public acceptance and safety:

<u>Action</u>	<u>Responsible Official</u>	<u>Date</u>
Prepare proposed order	Staff with LE input	08/05/2014
Review proposed order	Law Enforcement	08/05/2014
Approve proposed order	Forest Supervisor	08/05/2014
Post order in accordance with 36 CFR 261.51	District Staff	08/05/2014
Prepare news release for local media describing the order and management objectives	District PIO	08/05/2014
Describe implementation/action taken for order, such as planned patrols, enforcement strategies, tolerance, contacts to local public agencies. Implement plan.	District FPOs, other District staff, Chelan County Deputies	08/05/2014
Enforcement Plan approved for implementation:		08/05/2014

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Michael L. Balboni  
Forest Supervisor  
Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest

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Date